

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of operating a gaming system, said method comprising:

determining data representative of at least one limiting criterion selected from the group consisting of:

an end time of automated play,

~~a maximum number of plays,~~

a wager amount on each play of the game of said automated play, and

a rate of play of said automated play;

causing at least one processor to initiate said initiating-automated play of at least one slot machine or more gaming devices, said automated play including a then-unknown quantity of plays of the game, which quantity is greater than one, without requiring any input from the player after initiation of said automated play, each play of the game associated with a probability greater than zero of resulting in an award having a value greater than zero, in which at least one of the ~~at least one or more gaming devices~~ slot machine is not available for manual play ~~at least during the automated play;~~

causing the at least one processor to terminate terminating-the automated play of the one or more gaming devices slot machine based on according to the determined data representative of the at least one limiting criterion;

receiving a first signal including a representation of at least a portion of the automated play;

receiving a request from a remote player to view the representation of at least the portion of the automated play; and

after receiving the first signal and the request from the remote player, transmitting a second signal to the remote player, the second signal including the representation of at least the portion of the automated play to a remote player.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further ~~comprising:~~
comprising transmitting locking data to the at least one slot machine gaming device, said
locking data causing the at least one gaming device to be locked during said automated
play.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, in which at least one of
~~the at least one slot machine gaming device~~ is not operable for manual play regardless
of whether the automated play is occurring.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, in which at least one of
~~the at least one slot machine gaming device~~ is positioned in a portion of a facility which
is not accessible by any player.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further ~~comprising:~~
comprising enabling manual play of at least one of the at least one slot machine gaming
device after terminating the automated play.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, in which the one or
more gaming devices includes a first slot machine of the at least one slot machine is
stacked on top of gaming device and a second slot machine gaming device, the first
gaming device being stacked on top of the second gaming device.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, in which at least one of
~~the at least one slot machine comprises gaming device~~ includes a first casing that may
configured to be replaced with a different second casing.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, in which transmitting
the second signal to the remote player comprises:

determining a communication device ~~that is associated with the remote player;~~
and

transmitting the second signal to the determined communication device.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 8, in which the communication device comprises a handheld device.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 8, in which the communication device comprises a telephone.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 8, in which the communication device is associated with an internet protocol address.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, ~~in which~~ includes wirelessly transmitting the second signal to the remote player ~~comprises: transmitting the second signal via wireless communication.~~

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, ~~in which~~ includes transmitting the second signal ~~comprises: transmitting the second signal to a display device associated with the remote player.~~

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 1, in which the first signal comprises a video signal.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, which includes receiving ~~in which the first signal is received from a camera.~~

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method of claim 15, in which the camera is positioned adjacent to at least one gaming device to capture an image indicative of operable to view the automated play of said at least one of the at least one slot machine gaming device.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The method of claim 15, which includes enabling the remote player to provide an input to operate ~~in which the camera may be operated by the remote player.~~

Claim 18 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, in which includes ~~transmitting-comprises: transmitting~~ the second signal in response to a request for the second signal from the remote player.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, in which at least one of ~~the at least one slot machine-comprises-gaming device~~ is associated with a machine identifier: identifier.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The method of claim 19, in which the machine identifier is viewable by the remote player during the automated play.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, in which at least one of ~~the at least one slot machine-comprises-gaming device~~ is associated with an indicator of activity.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The method of claim 21, in which the indicator of activity ~~comprises~~ includes at least one selected from the group consisting of:

a first source of light,

a second source of light having a color that is associated with the remote player,

a flag, and

a text message.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A method of operating a gaming system, said method comprising:

receiving data associated with a remote player, the data representative of at least one selected from the group consisting of:

a wager amount, and

a rate of play~~maximum number of plays~~;

causing at least one processor to initiate ~~initiating~~ automated play of a slot machine gaming device, said automated play including a then-unknown quantity of plays of the game, which quantity is greater than one, without requiring any input from the player after initiation of said automated play, each play of the game associated with a probability greater than zero of resulting in an award having a value greater than zero;

causing the at least one processor to terminate ~~terminating~~ the automated play of the ~~slot machine based on~~ gaming device according to the received data associated with the remote player;

receiving a first video signal ~~from~~ captured by a camera, in which the first video signal indicates ~~indicating~~ at least one outcome of at least one play of the game of the automated play;

causing the at least one processor to generate ~~generating~~ a second video signal ~~that indicates~~ indicative of the at least one outcome of the at least one play of the game of the automated play;

determining at least one communication device ~~that is~~ associated with the remote player; and

transmitting the second video signal to the determined at least one communication device.

Claim 24 (withdrawn): A method comprising:
receiving from a player a first amount of funds for use in providing a session of play of a slot machine for a remote player;
storing the first amount of funds in a repository;
checking out the first amount of funds;
initiating the session of play using the first amount of funds;
storing an indication of at least one outcome generated during the session of play;
determining a second amount of funds based on the session of play; and
checking in the second amount of funds at the repository.

Claim 25 (withdrawn): The method of claim 24, in which checking out the first amount of funds comprises:
indicating the first amount of funds in a log.

Claim 26 (withdrawn): The method of claim 24, in which checking in the second amount of funds comprises:
indicating the second amount of funds in a log.

Claim 27 (withdrawn): The method of claim 24, further comprising:
determining a first difference between the first amount and the second amount;
determining an amount won during the session;
determining an amount lost during the session;
determining a second difference between the amount won and the amount lost;
and
determining whether the first difference is equal to the second difference.